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1) Saudi Arabia's ban on women drivers comes to an end

Saudi women are officially allowed to get behind the wheel, after a decades-old driving ban was lifted. The change was announced last September and Saudi Arabia issued the first licences to women earlier this month. It was the only country left in the world where women could not drive and families had to hire private chauffeurs for female relatives.

2) Canada legalises recreational cannabis use

Canada's parliament has passed a law legalising the recreational use of marijuana nationwide. The Cannabis Act passed its final hurdle in a 52-29 vote in the Senate. The bill controls and regulates how the drug can be grown, distributed, and sold. Canadians will be able to buy and consume cannabis legally as early as this September. The country is the second worldwide to legalise the drug's recreational use.

3) Work starts to upgrade Large Hadron Collider

Work has begun on a major upgrade to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) particle smasher. The High-Luminosity LHC will make it possible to study the fundamental building blocks of matter in more detail than ever before. Cern, the organisation that operates the LHC, held a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the beginning of civil engineering works. The upgrade will boost the accelerator's potential for new discoveries in physics, starting in 2026.

4) French jogger detained after crossing US-Canada border

A young French woman who went for an evening jog along a Canadian beach spent two weeks in US immigration detention after straying across the border. Cedella Roman, 19, decided to run along the beach that leads to Canada's border with the United States. Ms Roman told Canadian media she turned on to a dirt path for a few metres as the tide rose, and stopped to take a picture before retracing her steps. She was then confronted by two US border patrol agents who arrested her for crossing into Blaine, Washington.

5) Climate change could wipe out a third of parasite species, study finds

Climate change could wipe out a third of all parasite species on Earth, according to the most comprehensive analysis to date. Tapeworms, roundworms, ticks, lice and fleas are feared for the diseases they cause or carry, but scientists warn that they also play a vital role in ecosystems. Major extinctions among parasites could lead to unpredictable invasions of surviving parasites into new areas, affecting wildlife and humans and making a "significant contribution" to the sixth mass extinction already under way on Earth.

6) Swiss pair to be investigated over goal celebrations

Football's world governing body has opened an investigation into Granit Xhaka and Xherdan Shaqiri's goal celebrations during Switzerland's World Cup victory over Serbia. Both players are ethnic Albanians from Kosovo, where a Serbian crackdown on the Albanian population only ended with Nato military intervention in 1999. After scoring, they made an eagle gesture in a symbol of the two-headed eagle on the Albanian flag. Both were booed by Serbia fans.

NOTES: